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165-34

PATENT
30187/37275

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

AGUZZI et al.

Serial No.: 09/840,341

Filed: **April 23, 2001**

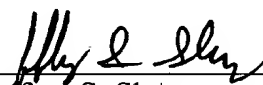
For: **PRION-BINDING ACTIVITY IN
SERUM AND PROTEINS**

Group Art Unit: 1653

Examiner: Karen C. Carlson

) I hereby certify that this paper and the
) documents referred to as enclosed
) therewith are being deposited with the
) United States Postal Service as first class
) mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope
) addressed to Commissioner for Patents,
) P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia
) 22313-1450

) **September 2, 2003**

) 

) Jeffrey S. Sharp

) Registration No. 31,879

) Attorney for Applicants

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 31, 2003 in the above-identified application in which the Examiner requested election of one of fourteen species within the invention. In response to the request, Applicants elect Group I claims (1-9, 11 and 12) with traverse. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement and argue that Groups I, IV, IX and XII should be examined together as they are sufficiently linked that they may be regarded as one single invention. This response is timely filed as a petition for a one month extension of time to September 2, 2003 (August 31, 2003 falling on a Sunday, and September 1, 2003 falling on a federal holiday) is enclosed herewith.

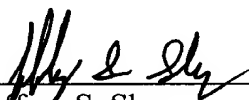
Should the Examiner wish to discuss any issues of form or substance in order to expedite allowance of the pending application, she is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by the paper to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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September 2, 2003

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